

PATENT APPLICATION TRANSMITTAL LETTER
(Large Entity)

Docket No.
0166

TO THE ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS

Transmitted herewith for filing under 35 U.S.C. 111 and 37 C.F.R. 1.53 is the patent application of:

Martin Brady

For: **HOUSEHOLD KITCHEN OPENING APPLIANCE**

Enclosed are:

- ☒ Certificate of Mailing with Express Mail Mailing Label No. **EM 354 395 446 US**
- ☒ **Four** sheets of drawings.
- ☐ A certified copy of a _____ application.
- ☒ Declaration ☐ Signed. ☒ Unsigned.
- ☐ Power of Attorney
- ☐ Information Disclosure Statement
- ☐ Preliminary Amendment
- ☒ Other: **Return Receipt Postcard; one copied patent**

CLAIMS AS FILED

For	#Filed	#Allowed	#Extra	Rate	Fee
Total Claims	9	- 20 =	0	x \$18.00	\$0.00
Indep. Claims	2	- 3 =	0	x \$78.00	\$0.00
Multiple Dependent Claims (check if applicable) <input type="checkbox"/>					\$0.00
BASIC FEE					\$760.00
TOTAL FILING FEE					\$760.00

- ☐ A check in the amount of _____ to cover the filing fee is enclosed.
- ☐ The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge and credit Deposit Account No. _____ as described below. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.
 - ☐ Charge the amount of _____ as filing fee.
 - ☐ Credit any overpayment.
 - ☐ Charge any additional filing fees required under 37 C.F.R. 1.16 and 1.17.
 - ☐ Charge the issue fee set in 37 C.F.R. 1.18 at the mailing of the Notice of Allowance, pursuant to 37 C.F.R. 1.311(b).

Dated: **January 11, 1999**



Signature

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cc:

PATENT APPLICATION

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HOUSEHOLD KITCHEN OPENING APPLIANCE

Field of the Invention

This invention relates to a household kitchen opening
5 appliance, particularly for opening cans, jars, bottles or bags.

Incorporation by Reference

The disclosure of U.S. Patent No. 5,676,440, is hereby
incorporated by reference herein.

Background of the Invention

10 Kitchen can openers often are provided with auxiliary
features useful for opening products other than cans. For
example, can openers are known which have bottle openers for
removing bottle caps, bag slitters for opening bags, and hones
for sharpening knives or scissors. Many households have various
15 separate kitchen tools, such as jar openers, especially for
opening wide-mouth jars, can openers, and bottle openers. In
addition, many households have kitchen scissors for opening bags
or for cutting food items, such as whole fryer chickens, into
smaller portions. These tools are often haphazardly kept in
20 cabinet drawers along with other tools and various other items
and can be a nuisance to retrieve when needed.

Summary of the Invention

An object of this invention is to provide an opening center

by which a single appliance provides multiple opening functions commonly needed in a kitchen using various different tools.

Another object of this invention is to provide an opening center which is conveniently available and can be permanently
5 installed in a single location in a kitchen. More specifically, an object of this invention is to provide a kitchen opening center which can be mounted under a kitchen cabinet with its several tools conveniently accessible and useable.

In accordance with this invention, an under-the-cabinet household kitchen opening appliance is provided that comprises an electrically operated can opener, a manually-operated jar opener mounted under a kitchen cabinet, and a sheath for a scissors in addition to other features such as a bottle opener and a hone.

An under-the-cabinet household opening appliance in
15 accordance with this invention includes an electric can opener, a jar opener mounted on the bottom wall of the can opener housing, and a sheath for a scissors on the back of the housing. A scissors holder in the sheath releasably retains a scissors within the sheath. The appliance preferably also includes a
20 bottle opener and a hone.

Other objects and advantages will become apparent from the following description and the drawings.

Brief Description of the Drawings

FIG. 1 is a front, top and right side perspective view of a

household kitchen opening appliance in accordance with this invention, the appliance being shown assembled on a mounting bracket assembly.

FIG. 2 is a fragmentary, exploded front, top and left side perspective view of the opening appliance and a mounting bracket forming part of the mounting assembly.

FIG. 3 is a fragmentary, exploded view of the housing and a cover member for a sheath for holding a scissors in accordance with this invention, a clamp used to hold the scissors partly in the sheath, and a scissors which may be inserted in the sheath.

FIG. 4 is a fragmentary perspective view of the lower front and left side portion of the housing of the opening appliance of this invention showing a bottle opener exploded away from the housing.

FIG. 5 is a fragmentary perspective view of the back and bottom of the housing of the opening appliance of this invention showing a jar opener exploded away from the housing.

FIG. 6 is a bottom plan view of the opening center of this invention.

Detailed Description

Referring to FIGS. 1 and 2, a household kitchen opening appliance, generally designated 10, in accordance with this invention is shown mounted to the underneath side of a kitchen cabinet 12 by a mounting arrangement, generally designated 14

including a mounting bracket assembly 44. The precise mounting arrangement 14 and the bracket assembly 44 are unimportant for purposes of this invention. These may be essentially the same as the mounting arrangement 14 and the bracket assembly 44 shown and described in the aforementioned patent no. 5,676,440. Therefore, these parts are not further disclosed herein. Appliance 10 comprises a generally rectangular housing 16 carrying a can opener assembly, generally designated 18. Housing 16 comprises a front portion 20 and a rear portion 22, preferably made of a plastic material, such as ABS, which is presently preferred, polypropylene or polystyrene or other suitable material, mated together to partially enclose and carry the can opener assembly 18. Front portion 20 and rear portion 22 of housing 16 cooperate to define a front wall 23A, a rear wall 23B, two side walls 23C, and a bottom wall 23D.

Can opener assembly 18 preferably includes an automatic knife mechanism, generally designated 24, which may be identical to the knife mechanism illustrated in the aforementioned patent no. 5,676,440.

With reference to FIG. 2, the upper part of the housing 16 is provided with a cavity 42 for storing a power cord 28 and its plug (not shown) when appliance 10 is not mounted under-the-cabinet. A notch 43 is provided in the rear wall 23B of the housing 16 through which the power cord 28 extends when the

appliance 10 is mounted under a cabinet. (The cord 28 is omitted in FIG. 3.)

With reference to FIGS. 4, 5 and 6, other features of the appliance 10 of this invention optionally include a conventional
5 flange-type bottle opener 36 attached to the housing 16 below the can opener assembly 18 by two screws 37. The bottle opener 36 is located within a recess 38 at the center of the lower front portion of the housing 16. In addition, a hone or honing stone 40 is trapped in a pocket 41 formed along one side of the housing 16 by mating portions of the two housing portions 20 and 22. Because the bottle opener 36 and the hone 40 are both optional features and may be entirely conventional, they are not further described herein.

Referring to FIGS. 3 and 6, in accordance with this
15 invention, the appliance is provided with a downwardly-open, vertically-extending, scissors-receiving sheath, generally designated 50, for a scissors, such as the illustrated scissors 52. The sheath 50 is formed by the rear wall 23B of the housing 16 and a cover member 54 connected to the rear wall 23 by screws
20 56. A scissors holder or clamp 58 comprising a pair of cooperating spring metal clamp members 60 and 62, mounted by screws 64 respectively on the housing rear wall 23B and the cover member 54, releasably retain the scissors 52 within the sheath 50 when the scissors 52 are inserted upwardly from below the

appliance 10.

Further in accordance with this invention, with reference to FIGS. 5 and 6, a jar opener, generally designated 70 is mounted on the bottom wall 23D of the housing 16. The jar opener 70 includes a pair of elongate stainless steel plates 74 and 76 which extend at an acute angle outwardly from the rear to the front of the bottom wall 23D. The plates 74 and 76 are clamped to respective support pads 78 and 80 formed on the housing bottom wall 23D, by respective clamp plates 82 and 84. The steel plate 76 has a series of saw teeth 86 along its exposed edge for gripping the edge of a jar lid. As evident, and as indicated by phantom lines in FIG. 6, a jar (not shown) with a lid 90, may be pressed upwardly against the housing bottom wall 23D and rearwardly into firm engagement with the stainless steel strips 76 and 78 and then rotated to loosen the lid 90.

Although the presently preferred embodiment of this invention has been described, it will be understood that within the purview of the invention various changes may be made within the scope of the following claims.

I claim:

1. A household opening appliance comprising an electric can opener having a housing and a jar opener mounted on the bottom wall of said housing.

2. The appliance of claim 1 further comprising a sheath for a scissors on the back of said housing.

3. The appliance of claim 2 further comprising a scissors holder within said sheath.

4. The appliance of claim 2 wherein said sheath is formed by the back wall of said housing and a cover member connected to said back wall.

5. The appliance of claim 4 further comprising a scissors holder within said sheath, said scissors holder comprising a clamp formed from a first clamp member mounted on said back wall and a second clamp member mounted on said cover member.

6. A household opening appliance comprising an electric can opener having a housing and a sheath for a scissors on the back of said housing.

7. The appliance of claim 6 further comprising a scissors holder within said sheath.

8. The appliance of claim 6 wherein said sheath is formed by the back wall of said housing and a cover member connected to said back wall.

9. The appliance of claim 8 further comprising a scissors

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holder within said sheath, said scissors holder comprising a
clamp formed from a first clamp member mounted on said back wall
and a second clamp member mounted on said cover member.

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ABSTRACT

An under-the-cabinet household opening appliance including
an electric can opener, a jar opener mounted on the bottom wall
of the can opener housing, and a sheath for a scissors on the
5 back of the housing. A scissors holder in the sheath releasably
retains a scissors within the sheath. A bottle opener and a hone
are also mounted on the appliance housing.

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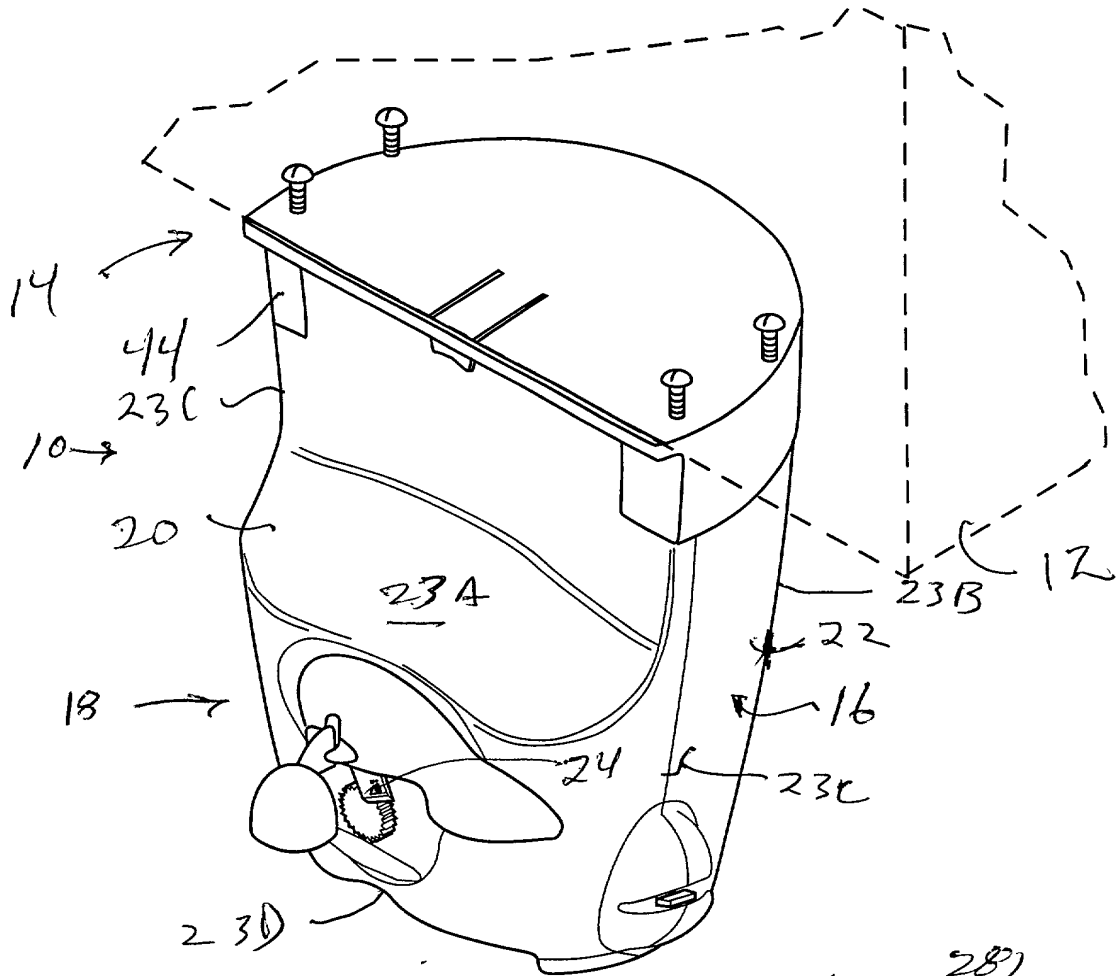


FIG. 1

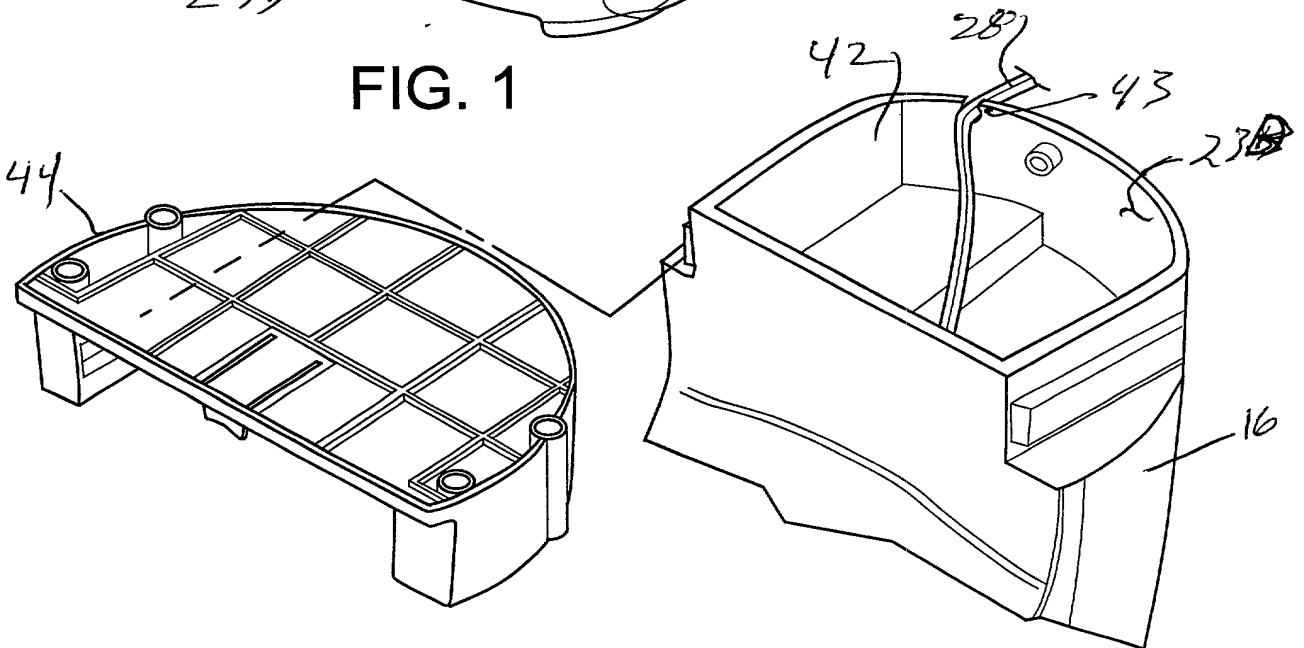


FIG. 2

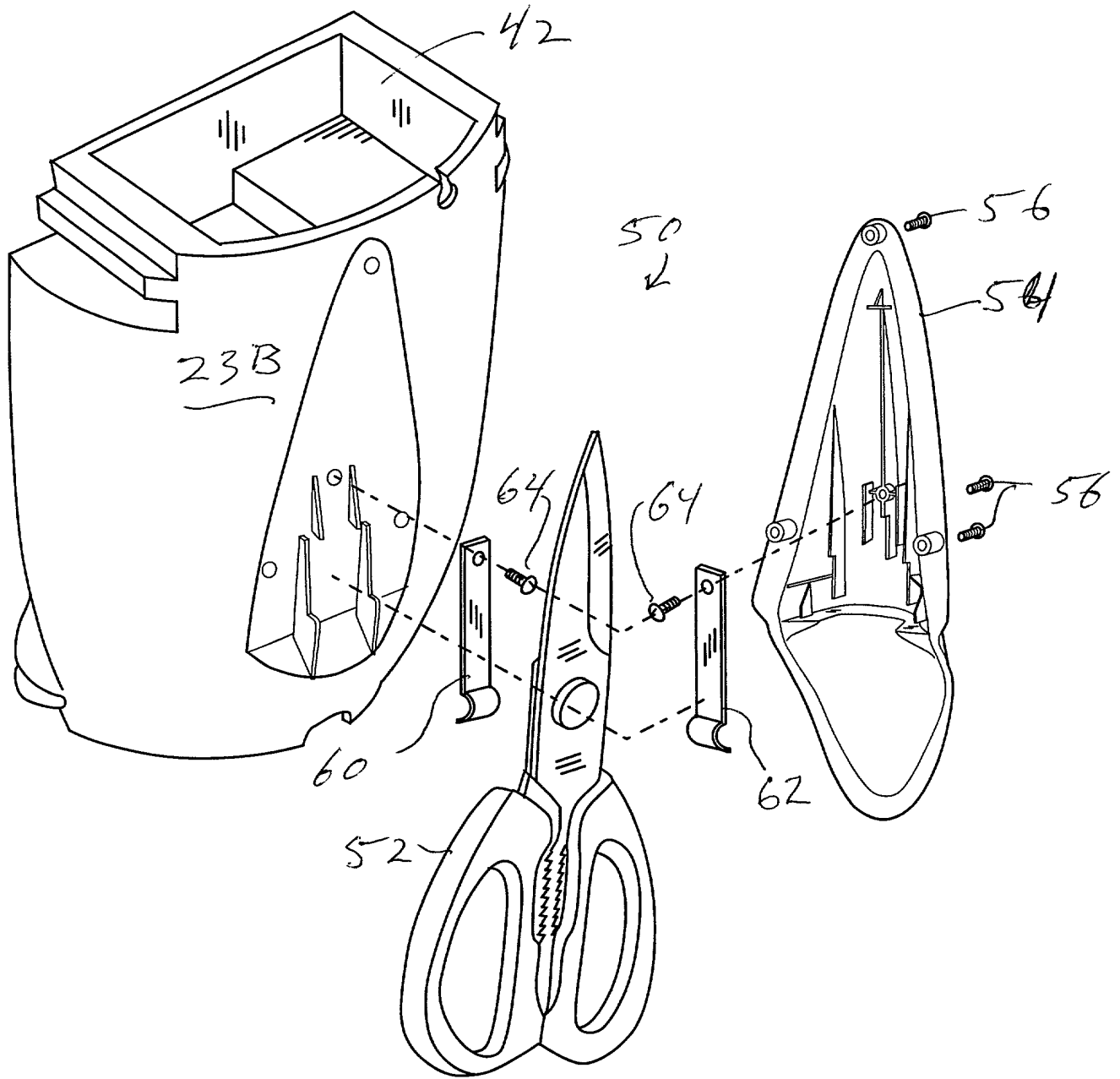


FIG. 3

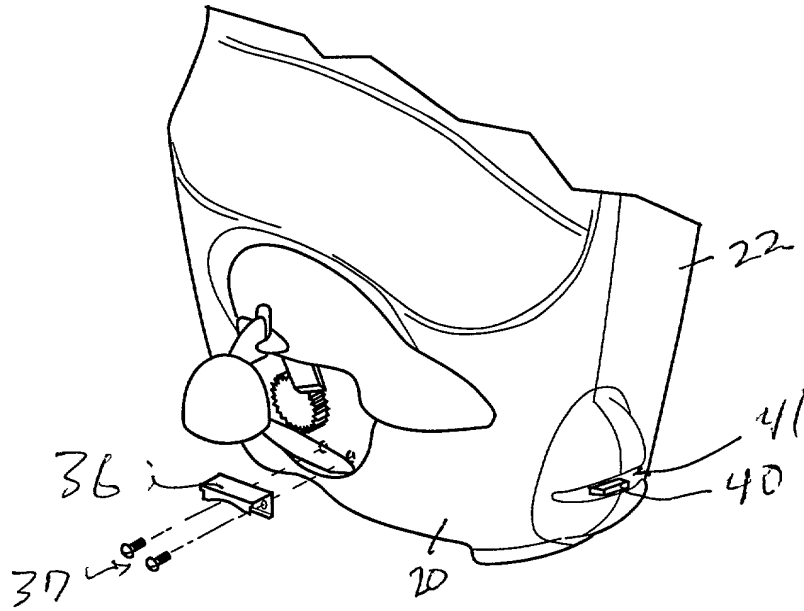


FIG. 4

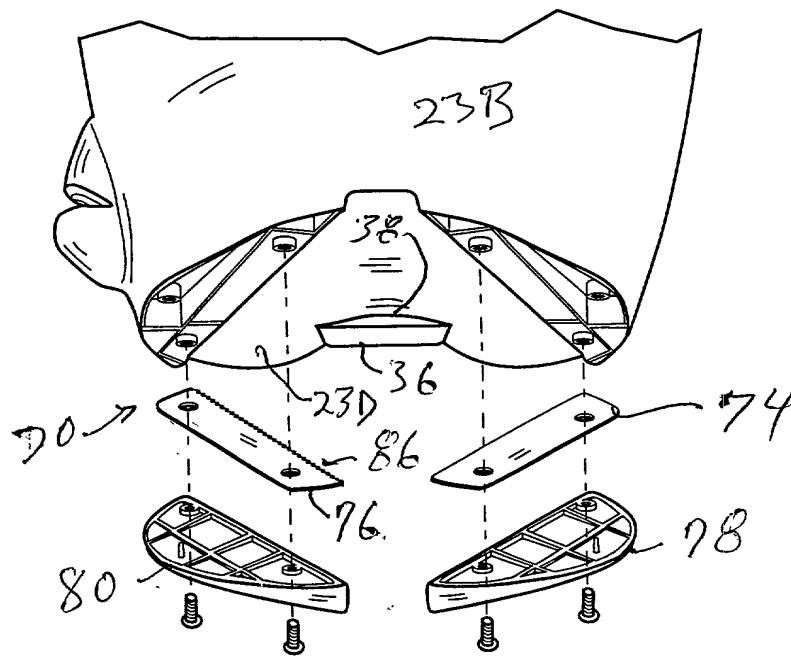


FIG. 5

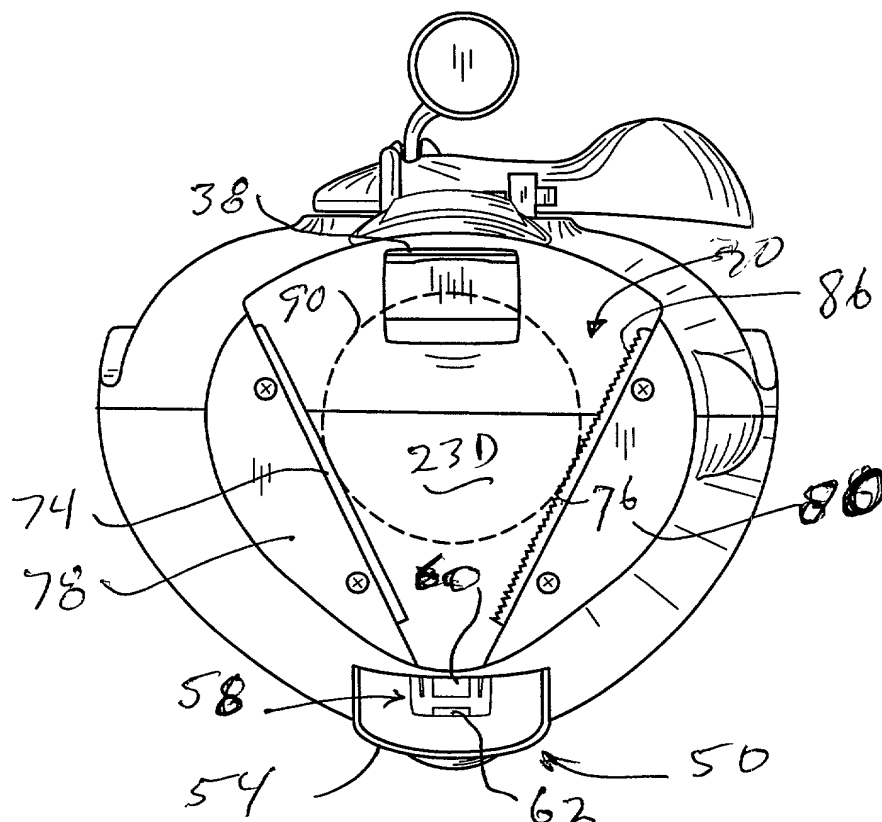


FIG. 6

DECLARATION AND POWER OF ATTORNEY

As a below named inventor, I hereby declare that:

My residence, post office address, and citizenship are as stated below next to my name;

I believe I am the original, first and sole inventor (if only one name is listed below) or an original, first and joint inventor (if plural names are listed below) of the subject matter which is claimed and for which a patent is sought on the invention entitled:

HOUSEHOLD KITCHEN OPENING APPLIANCE

the specification of which:

X is attached hereto.

_____ was filed on _____ as
Application Serial No. _____
and was amended on _____.

I hereby state that I have reviewed and understand the contents of the above identified specification, including the claims, as amended by any amendment referred to above.

I acknowledge the duty to disclose to the Patent Office all information known to me to be material to patentability as defined in 37 CFR §1.56.

I hereby claim foreign priority benefits under Title 35, United States Code, Section 119, of any foreign application(s) for patent or inventor's certificate or of any PCT international application(s) designating at least one country other than the United States of America listed below and have also identified

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below any foreign application(s) for patent or inventor's certificate or any PCT international application(s) designating at least one country other than the United States of America filed by me on the same subject matter having a filing date before that of the application(s) of which priority is claimed.

Prior Foreign Application(s): None

I hereby appoint the following attorneys to prosecute this application and to transact all business in the Patent and Trademark Office connected therewith: Roger S. Dybvig, Registration No. 19,319, and Robert H. Earp, III, Registration No. 41,004, 22 Green Street, Dayton, Ohio 45402 and Benjamin F. Griffin, Registration No. 19,334, Suite PH-1, 2300 9th Street, South, Arlington, Virginia 22204-2396 - telephone no. (703) 979-5700.

Address all telephone calls to Roger S. Dybvig at (937) 461-1142. Address all correspondence to Roger S. Dybvig, 22 Green Street, Dayton, Ohio 45402.

I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued

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Declaration and Power of Attorney
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thereon.

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